

# Additional Resources

## Other Resources from Technologies Across Nebraska

### **IT Planning and Mini Grant Program** [www.nitc.state.ne.us/toolkit/pilot/](http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/toolkit/pilot/)

Surveys, reports, and information on the activities of community and regional technology committees participating in the program are available.

### **Community Information Technology Toolkit** [www.nitc.state.ne.us/toolkit](http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/toolkit)

The toolkit contains resources, success stories, and frequently asked questions related to information technology development.

### **Technologies Across Nebraska** [technologiesacrossnebraska.unl.edu](http://technologiesacrossnebraska.unl.edu)

The Technologies Across Nebraska Site includes information on the Technologies Across Nebraska partnership, a calendar of events, information on workshops and classes, and a listing of resources.

## Additional Community Technology Plans

### **Aurora, Nebraska**

Aurora, Nebraska is recognized as a leader in technology-related development. Local officials credit much of their success to the development of a technology plan. The Hamilton County strategic technology plan from 1999 is available at [www.nitc.state.ne.us/itc/community/HamiltonCountyPlan2.pdf](http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/itc/community/HamiltonCountyPlan2.pdf).

### **Blacksburg, Virginia**

Blacksburg, Virginia is the most wired community in the United States. Their technology plan is available at [www.blacksburg.gov/downloads/Information\\_Technology.pdf](http://www.blacksburg.gov/downloads/Information_Technology.pdf).

### **Lincoln, Nebraska**

Lincoln, Nebraska hired HDR to conduct a technology assessment and to develop a technology plan. Their plan is available at <http://www.ci.lincoln.ne.us/city/mayor/tech/pdf/techrprt.pdf>.

## Other Resources

### **Design Nine** <http://www.designnine.com/>

Design Nine is a consulting firm operated by Andrew Michael Cohill, who directed the Blacksburg Electronic Village. The library section contains a number of fascinating articles on building telecommunications infrastructure in communities and promoting the effective use of technology.

### **CSPP** [www.cspp.org](http://www.cspp.org)

CSPP's Readiness Guide is the most widely used e-readiness assessment. It was developed for metropolitan areas and can be a bit daunting for very small communities.

### **CENIC** [www.cenic.org](http://www.cenic.org)

CENIC has developed a self-assessment guide for communities. *On the Road to Gigabit Broadband* is an excellent resource, adapted from *CSPP's Readiness Guide*. The Web site also contains a data performance comparison table and a glossary of terms.

# Credits

The *Building Information Age Communities Community Information Technology Planning Workbook* was developed by Anne Byers, Community IT Manager for the Nebraska Information Technology Commission, with input from members of the Community IT Toolkit Committee, the Nebraska Information Technology Commission's Community Council and Technologies Across Nebraska. This assessment tool and additional resources are available from the Community Information Technology Toolkit available at <http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/toolkit>. The workbook was pilot tested by members of eight community and regional technology committees participating in the 2002-2003 IT Planning and Mini Grant program.

Thank you to the technology committees of Alliance; Brown, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties; Custer County; Crawford-Harrison; Edgar: Fillmore County; West Point area; and York County. The suggestions of the committee members and the lessons learned were invaluable in the development of this revised version of the workbook. Patty Barstow, who facilitated the Brown, Keya Paha, and Rock Counties technology committee, contributed some tips on working with multi-community groups. Members of the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension's Connecting Nebraska Team and other Extension Educators in these communities also provided valuable assistance.

This assessment draws upon the work of many individuals and organizations. The nine questions which establish the framework of this assessment were drawn from "Building eCommunities: Getting Everyone Connected" by Andrew Michael Cohill (available at <http://www.designnine.com/library/docs/ecomunities.pdf>). In addition some of the indicators in the telecommunications infrastructure section were drawn from his article "Telecommunications as Essential Public Infrastructure" (available at [www.designnine.com/library/docs/telecom\\_as\\_infrastructure.pdf](http://www.designnine.com/library/docs/telecom_as_infrastructure.pdf))

Many of the indicators in this assessment were adapted from the "Report Card for the Information Age" developed by the Docking Institute for Public Affairs at Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas. We are grateful for the use of the instrument and for all of the work they have done in helping communities utilize information technology as a community and economic development tool. For more information on the Docking Institute, see <http://www.fhsu.edu/docking>.

The questions which assess a community's overall e-readiness in each category were modeled after the CSSP Readiness Guide (<http://www.cspp.org>). Some of the questions were adapted from the Readiness Guide.

Many of the social capital indicators were drawn from "Community Connections News Release: How to Succeed at Economic Development" by Jan L. Flora and Jeff S. Sharp, Iowa State University Extension, May 2, 1997, available at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/communities/news/ComCon59.html>.

The workbook also includes contributions from Nebraskans who have been involved in technology-related development. Roger Hahn, Nebraska Information Network, provided assistance in the development of the telecommunications glossary. Christine Angerame, Aurora Technology Center Coordinator, provided updated information on the Aurora Technology Center.